THE PRESIDENT'S NEW COLLEGE EVALUATION SYSTEM

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Presented by

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The Obama Administration’s Proposed College Ratings System

- New College Ratings Before 2015
  - Compare Value Offered by Colleges
  - Identify Colleges That “Do The Most To Help Students From Disadvantaged Backgrounds”
  - Publish Results on the College Scorecard
- Ratings To Be Based On:
  - Access, such as % receiving Pell Grants;
  - Affordability, such as average tuition, scholarships, and loan debt; and
  - Outcomes, such as graduation and transfer rates, graduate earnings, and advanced degrees.
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- December 2013 Request For Information Published By ED In Federal Register
  - Assistance Sought In Developing The “Postsecondary Institutions Ratings System”
  - How To Measure Affordability And Value Of Postsecondary Education?
  - Examples of Ratings Systems That Measure Value To Students and Taxpayers Requested
  - How To Compare Performance While Accounting For “Diversity Of Institutional Mission”? 
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- Student Aid Would Be Impacted By College Value Ratings By 2018
  - Legislation Will Be Sought Using The New Ratings System To Impact Aid Awards
  - “Transform The Way Federal Student Aid Is Awarded To Colleges Once The Ratings Are Well Developed.”
  - Students Attending High-Performing Colleges Could Receive Larger Pell Grants And More Affordable Student Loans
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- New System Would Promote Innovation And Competition – Publish Information Aimed At Encouraging Colleges To:
  - Award Credits Based On Learning, Not Seat Time – Focus On Competency-Based Learning
  - Use Technology To Redesign Courses
  - Use Technology For Students Services
  - Recognize Prior Learning and Promote Dual Enrollment.
Jay Vaughan is a partner in Cooley's Education practice group and leads the Accreditation Practice. Mr. Vaughan previously was associated with Dow Lohnes Higher Education, which merged with Cooley on January 1, 2014. Prior to joining Dow Lohnes, Jay worked as a manager with a national accrediting agency, with primary responsibility for the financial review of accredited member institutions, change of ownership and non-main campus applications, and administrative appeals. During his seven-year tenure as an accreditor, he completed more than 300 on-site evaluations of accredited and applicant institutions.

In addition to assisting institutions to respond to inquiries from regulatory authorities and representing clients in hearings before accrediting bodies, Jay works proactively with institutions to prevent adverse actions, assist with strategic planning, and provides advice regarding day-to-day operations. Mr. Vaughan also assists institutions to understand state and federal laws regulating the field of postsecondary education, specifically focusing on mergers and acquisitions (including corporate conversions), the definition of a credit hour, and what is commonly referred to as the “90/10 rule.”

He received his B.S. from James Madison University in 1993 and received his law degree from the George Washington University Law School in 2001. He is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia.

When Dow Lohnes joined Cooley this year, we gained a premier higher education practice with over 30 years experience. Now, combined with Cooley’s global regulatory, business, IP and litigation power, our firm offers comprehensive legal service to help education industry clients achieve their strategic objectives.

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Stanley A. Freeman is the President of Pyles Sutter & Verville and founded the firm's education practice. Mr. Freeman frequently counsels postsecondary educational institutions from all sectors of higher education regarding strategic issues pertaining to participation in the federal student financial assistance programs, accreditation, licensure, and related regulatory concerns. For the past several years, Mr. Freeman has been selected by his peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America in the specialty of Education Law.

Mr. Freeman has been actively involved in representing educational institutions for twenty years. In his practice, he counsels individual educational institutions, corporate investors in higher education, associations of schools and colleges, accrediting agencies, and allied educational companies on administrative, transactional, regulatory and litigation matters. He has represented numerous schools in proceedings before the US Department of Education, the accrediting commissions, and guaranty agencies. He has also litigated cases in the state and federal courts. He spends much of his time advising clients concerning regulatory and compliance matters arising under the Higher Education Act of 1965. Mr. Freeman served as a founding member of the Board of Directors of National Student Partnerships from 1999 to 2009 and is a Founder of the Burning Tree Elementary School Educational Foundation. Mr. Freeman served on the Board of Directors of the Career College Association from 1995 to 1997 and on the Board of APSCU from 2012 to 2014.

Mr. Freeman graduated with distinction from the Honors College of the University of Michigan in 1978 and received his law degree from the Georgetown University Law Center in 1982. He is admitted to practice law in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia.

Powers Pyles Sutter & Verville is a Washington, DC-based law firm that focuses on health care and education.